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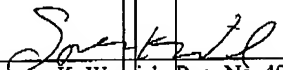
In Re Application of Sovik *et al.* Conf. #: 5248
Serial No.: 10/720,915 Art Unit: 3671
Filed: 11/24/2003 Dkt. #: TRAN-0012
Title: PAVEMENT RAMP EDGE MAKING Examiner: Hartmann, G.

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

DESTINATION FACSIMILE NUMBER: 703-872-9306

Transmitted herewith is: Amendment in 12 pages
in the above identified application.

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Spencer K. Warnick, Reg. No. 40,398

DATE: December 2, 2004

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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action dated September 7, 2004.

Reconsideration in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

10/720,915

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II. AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A pavement ramp edge maker comprising:

a compaction member ~~have~~having a compaction surface for partially compacting paving material received thereby into a ramp; and

a coupling device for coupling the compaction member to a paving machine such that the compaction member is independently vertically movable against a bias during operation,

wherein the compaction surface is set at an edge angle such that a final angle of the ramp after compaction is less than or equal to approximately 45° relative to a surface upon which the ramp is formed.

2. (Previously Presented) The pavement edge maker of claim 1, wherein the coupling device includes a spring bias and vertical adjustment system including:

a mounting plate for mounting to a fixed structure of the paving machine;

a threaded rod slidably coupled to the mounting plate and threadably coupled to the compaction member to allow independent vertical movement of the compaction member; and

a spring bias for biasing the compaction member against upward movement, the spring bias including a spring mounted about the threaded rod and between the mounting plate and a bias adjustment member that is rigidly coupled to the threaded rod.

3. (Previously Presented) The pavement edge maker of claim 2, wherein a distance between the mounting plate and the compaction member can be adjusted by turning of the threaded rod.

4. (Original) The pavement edge maker of claim 2, wherein a bias required to move the compaction member upwardly relative to the mounting plate can be adjusted by adjusting the position of the bias adjustment member along the threaded rod.
5. (Original) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 1, wherein the compaction member further includes a paving material directing member for directing paving material toward the compaction surface.
6. (Currently Amended) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 5, wherein the paving material directing member is a plate that is set at an angle of approximately 45° relative to the an end plate.
7. (Original) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 5, wherein the compaction member further includes a pair of support members coupled to the compaction surface and the paving material directing member.
8. (Original) The pavement edge maker of claim 7, wherein one of the support members extends in a direction of travel and includes a rounded leading edge adapted to engage the surface.
9. (Original) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 5, further comprising a trailing directing member extending substantially in a direction of travel from a trailing edge of the paving material directing member.

10. (Original) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 1, wherein the compaction member further includes a trailing compaction surface extending substantially in a direction of travel from a trailing edge of the compaction surface.
11. (Original) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 10, wherein the trailing edge between the compaction surface and the trailing compaction surface is rounded.
12. (Original) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 1, wherein the compaction surface is set at a compaction angle relative to a direction of travel that is less than approximately 45° .
13. (Previously Presented) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 12, wherein the edge angle and the compaction angle are substantially identical.
14. (Original) The pavement ramp edge maker of claim 13, wherein the edge angle and the compaction angle are approximately 35° .

15. (Currently Amended) A paving machine comprising:
- a screed for distributing paving material during paving;
 - [[a]]an end gate coupled to the screed; and
 - a pavement ramp edge maker including:
 - a compaction member including a compaction surface for partially compacting paving material received thereby to form a ramp; and
 - a coupling device for coupling the compaction member to the paving machine such that the compaction member is independently vertically movable against a bias during operation,
 - wherein the compaction surface is set at an edge angle such that a final angle of paving material after compaction is less than or equal to approximately 45° relative to a surface upon which the ramp is formed.
16. (Previously Presented) The paving machine of claim 15, wherein the edge angle is approximately 35° relative to horizontal.

17. (Previously Presented) The paving machine of claim 15, wherein the coupling device includes a spring bias and vertical adjustment system including:

a mounting plate for mounting to a fixed structure of the paving machine;
a threaded rod slidably coupled to the mounting plate and threadably coupled to the compaction member to allow independent vertical movement of the compaction member; and
a spring bias for biasing the compaction member against upward movement, the spring bias including a spring mounted about the threaded rod and between the mounting plate and a bias adjustment member that is threadably coupled to the threaded rod.

18. (Previously Presented) The paving machine of claim 17, wherein a distance between the mounting plate and the compaction member can be adjusted by turning of the threaded rod.

19. (Previously Presented) The paving machine of claim 17, wherein a bias required to move the compaction member upwardly relative to the mounting plate can be adjusted by adjusting the position of the bias adjustment member along the threaded rod.

20. (Previously Presented) The paving machine of claim 15, wherein the compaction member further includes a paving material directing member for directing paving material toward the compaction surface.

21. (Previously Presented) The paving machine of claim 20, further comprising a trailing directing member extending substantially in a direction of travel from a trailing edge of the paving material directing member.

22. (Previously Presented) The paving machine of claim 15, wherein the compaction member further includes a trailing compaction surface extending substantially in a direction of travel from a trailing edge of the compaction surface.

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